

Give Generously to the Pennies by the Inch Drive

7 Feb 1985

by Dr. Kitty Ferguson

The baby lay limp and gray on the blanket, her tiny body looking even smaller on the adult stretcher. The only signs of life were the barely visible rise and fall of her chest and an occasional weak moan. Several pairs of hands busily worked around her. An IV dripped life saving drugs into a vein. A mask supplied vital oxygen. An ultrasonic machine measured the pressure of her blood and leads attached to her chest reassured us that her heart was still beating--barely.

We had done all we could do at Wasatch County Hospital--it was a lot, but this baby needed more! I dialed the phone and told the people at Primary Childrens Medical Center that we needed help. The first thing they told me was that the helicopter would be in our parking lot in 35 minutes. We then described the baby's problems to see if there was any thing else we could do while waiting. We discussed her needs so when she got to Primary they could be ready for her. I hung up feeling grateful that a hospital like Primary is there when we need it.

After the baby was safely on her way it occurred to me that all the times I have called Primary for help not once have I been asked if the family had insurance or could afford to pay. It is a fact

of life that somebody has to pay for medical care and most hospitals cannot afford to treat very many patients that might not be able to pay. I've practiced in hospitals that wouldn't accept a patient who couldn't pay, unless it was life or death. It doesn't work that way at Primary. I knew that this small girl's medical bills were going to be huge. I also knew her young parents had no insurance and were struggling to build their first home. But nobody asked me those questions they just said, "We'll be there."

In 63 years a child has never been turned away from Primary Childrens because of race, religion or ability to pay. In 1984 Primary used \$2.1 million to provide medical care to needy children. More than half of that was raised by the Pennies by the Inch campaign. More than 1500 needy children had all or part of their hospital bill paid by these contributions. Every single penny raised went to pay necessary medical expenses. (The doctors donate their services to these children.)

Sound wonderful, and it is--but it's not enough! There just isn't enough money to go around. Primary wouldn't be there when we needed it if all that great care didn't get paid for some how. There are people at Primary

whose full time job is to help families find ways to cope with the terrible expenses. They try hard but they can't work miracles. The Pennies money must go to the most desperate. Many less needy families are faced with real financial hardship as the price of their child's life and health.

The family I have told you about has paid. There wasn't enough Pennies by the Inch money to go around and other had a greater need. Primary is working with them but it is going to be a terrible struggle to pay the bills and still make ends meet. Was it worth it? if the giggles and smiles of a bright healthy baby are priceless then was it worth it a thousand times over.

The next child Primary is questioningly accepts, and the next family to face the cost of life saving care, may be your own. Volunteers collecting for Pennies by the inch will come to your door between Feb. 11-23. Be generous!

Dr. Ferguson is a Heber City pediatrician who specializes in the care of children from birth to 18 years. If you have a question you would like Dr. Ferguson to answer in this column write to Mountainland Medical Center, 30 So. 500 E. Heber City, Utah 84032. *Episcopalian*

7.80	
8.25	
8.90	9.20
10.80	11.30
10.60	11.30

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Period	Rate
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10.00	1.38
5.50	5.65

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Special Certificate for new clients



Clair Norton, Branch Manager, shows advantages of saving at Valley Bank in the Grand Opening celebration.

Valley Banks feature a full range of services; checking accounts, savings plans, money market certificates, loans, time and savings certificates.

The bank will be open, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to allow valley residents to come in and enter the free prize drawings, and to unlock the treasure chest for big prizes.

"I encourage everyone to deposit one entry blank," said Norton. "The entry blank could win a lucky couple a trip to Hawaii. Drawing will be held at 5 p.m. on Friday."

Open House for Bawden to be Held



former Joann Giles. They have special children.

Several of Mr. Bawden's sculptures have been accepted by the Church for permanent display in its new Museum of History and Art.

One of the most acclaimed works so far, a reconstructed version of the Prophet Joseph Smith that Church Arts and Site Curators refer to as the most accurate likeness of the Church's founder. He made a statue by studying recently discovered skull dimensions taken at the time Joseph's body was exhumed in 1928, then making an impression of the Prophet's face from a copy of his death mask and building upon it with thin strips of clay. A special testimony goes along with the